

# ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 194

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 19, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman LISA SWAIN**

**District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE**

**District 37 (Bergen)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requests that future federal legislation related to COVID-19 financial relief include menstrual product funding.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/29/2020)

1   **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** requesting that future federal  
2       legislation related to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)  
3       financial relief include menstrual product funding.

4  
5   **WHEREAS**, Menstrual products are defined as disposable or reusable  
6       products used for catching menstruation and vaginal discharge,  
7       including tampons, sanitary pads, and menstrual cups; and

8   **WHEREAS**, Menstrual products are instrumental to feminine hygiene;  
9       and

10   **WHEREAS**, Women who earn a low-income or who have lost their jobs  
11       during the COVID-19 pandemic struggle to afford menstrual  
12       products; and

13   **WHEREAS**, In March 2020, the United State Congress and President  
14       Donald Trump enacted a \$2 trillion stimulus bill known as the  
15       CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act; and

16   **WHEREAS**, The aim of the law was to blunt the impact of an economic  
17       downturn set in motion by the global COVID-19 pandemic; and

18   **WHEREAS**, Policymakers crafted legislation that dedicates historic  
19       government funding to support large and small businesses,  
20       industries, individuals and families, gig workers and independent  
21       contractors, and hospitals; and

22   **WHEREAS**, However, the legislation did not provide menstrual product  
23       funding; and

24   **WHEREAS**, Any further legislation relating to COVID-19 financial  
25       relief enacted by the federal government should include funding for  
26       entities that offer free menstrual products to women in need; now,  
27       therefore,

28  
29       **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New*  
30       *Jersey:*

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32       1. This House requests that any future legislation enacted by  
33       the federal government relating to COVID-19 financial relief  
34       include funding for entities that offer free menstrual products to  
35       women in need.

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37       2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,  
38       shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly, to every  
39       member of the New Jersey Congressional delegation.

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STATEMENT

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44       This resolution requests that any future legislation passed by the  
45       federal government related to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-  
46       19) financial relief include menstrual product funding.

47       Menstrual products are defined as disposable or reusable  
48       products used for catching menstruation and vaginal discharge,

1 including tampons, sanitary pads, and menstrual cups. Menstrual  
2 products are instrumental to feminine hygiene.

3 Women who earn a low-income or who have lost their jobs  
4 during the COVID-19 pandemic struggle to afford menstrual  
5 products. In March 2020, the United State Congress and President  
6 Donald Trump enacted a \$2 trillion stimulus bill known as the  
7 CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act.  
8 The aim of the law was to blunt the impact of an economic  
9 downturn set in motion by the global COVID-19 pandemic.

10 Policymakers crafted legislation that dedicates historic  
11 government funding to support large and small businesses,  
12 industries, individuals and families, gig workers and independent  
13 contractors, and hospitals. However, the legislation did not provide  
14 menstrual product funding. Any further legislation relating to  
15 COVID-19 financial relief enacted by the federal government  
16 should include funding for entities that offer free menstrual  
17 products to women in need.